PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: O80180

Fumiko SHIRAISHI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/792,297

Group Art Unit: 1793

Confirmation No.: 3153 Examiner: John P. SHEEHAN

Filed: March 3, 2004

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING MAGNETIC PARTICLE, MAGNETIC PARTICLE AND

MAGNETIC RECODING MEDIUM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

- 1. JP 2003-297617
- 2. JP 2002-162501
- 3. JP 2000-155981
- 4. JP 6-287005
- JP 8-196896

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the

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merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for the foreign language document, a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such document, together with an English-language version of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith. Also, English language abstracts for the foreign language documents JP-2003-297617, JP 2002-162501, JP 2000-155981, and JP 6-287005.

Additionally, it is noted that WO 02/062509 cited was submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 30, 2004.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted.

Registration No. 47,121

Keiko K. Takagi

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23373 CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 25, 2008

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Docket No: Q80180

Fumiko SHIRAISHI, et al.

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The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said

Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 47,121

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23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 25, 2008